



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 24 19 0195

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	WO 2022/189934 A1 (COVIDIEN LP [US]) 15 September 2022 (2022-09-15)	1,2,4,5, 7,9-11, 14,15	INV. A61B17/115
A	* especially para. 36-37; paragraph [0028] - paragraph [0062]; figures 1-9 *	3,6,8	ADD. A61B17/00 A61B90/00
A	US 2022/104806 A1 (SHELTON IV FREDERICK E [US] ET AL) 7 April 2022 (2022-04-07) * especially figs. 35-42; paragraph [0112] - paragraph [0495]; figures 18-70 *	1-11,14, 15	
A	EP 3 108 823 A2 (ETHICON ENDO SURGERY LLC [PR]) 28 December 2016 (2016-12-28) * paragraph [0008] - paragraph [0157]; figures 27, 28 *	1-11,14, 15	
A	WO 2019/130087 A1 (ETHICON LLC [US]) 4 July 2019 (2019-07-04) * the whole document *	1-11,14, 15	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			A61B
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
Munich		14 November 2024	Kamp, Martin
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



Application Number

EP 24 19 0195

CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

1-3, 6-11, 14 (completely); 4, 5, 15 (partially)

☐ The present supplementary European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number

EP 24 19 0195

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-3, 6-11, 14(completely); 4, 5, 15(partially)

A surgical stapler comprising: (a) a body assembly; (b) a shaft assembly that extends distally from the body assembly; (c) a stapling head assembly disposed at a distal end of the shaft assembly, wherein the stapling head assembly is operable to drive a plurality of staples into tissue, wherein the stapling head assembly comprises a closure shaft that is selectively movable longitudinally; and (d) an anvil configured to form the staples, wherein the anvil is selectively coupleable with and actuatable by the closure shaft, wherein the anvil comprises: (i) one or more sensors each configured to detect a parameter associated with at least one of closure or firing of the end effector; (ii) a processor configured to receive signals from the one or more sensors, wherein the signals are indicative of the parameter detected by the one or more sensors; (iii) a transmitter configured to transmit the signals received by the processor; and (iv) a battery configured to power the processor and the transmitter.

2. claims: 12, 13(completely); 4, 5, 15(partially)

An anvil configured for use with a surgical stapler, the anvil being configured to form staples and comprising: (a) one or more sensors each configured to detect a parameter associated with at least one of closure or firing of the surgical stapler; (b) a processor configured to receive signals from the one or more sensors, wherein the signals are indicative of the parameter detected by the one or more sensors; (c) a transmitter configured to transmit the signals received by the processor; (d) a battery configured to power the processor and the transmitter; and (e) a power switch configured to transition the anvil between a low-power configuration and a high-power configuration, wherein the anvil in the low-power configuration consumes less energy from the battery than the anvil in the high-power configuration.

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 24 19 0195

5

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

14 - 11 - 2024

10

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 2022189934 A1	15-09-2022	EP 4304494 A1	17-01-2024
		WO 2022189934 A1	15-09-2022

US 2022104806 A1	07-04-2022	CN 116456913 A	18-07-2023
		EP 4072440 A1	19-10-2022
		JP 2023544369 A	23-10-2023
		US 2022104806 A1	07-04-2022
		WO 2022070051 A1	07-04-2022

EP 3108823 A2	28-12-2016	BR 112017028129 A2	28-08-2018
		CN 107809968 A	16-03-2018
		EP 3108823 A2	28-12-2016
		JP 6752832 B2	09-09-2020
		JP 2018519065 A	19-07-2018
		US 2016374681 A1	29-12-2016
		WO 2016210073 A2	29-12-2016

WO 2019130087 A1	04-07-2019	BR 112020013066 A2	01-12-2020
		CN 111566743 A	21-08-2020
		JP 7225249 B2	20-02-2023
		JP 2021509043 A	18-03-2021
		WO 2019130087 A1	04-07-2019

35

40

45

50

55

EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82